

**Amendment to the Drawings**

As required in the Office Action, the following corrections have been made to the drawings:

FIG. 1 has been corrected by deletion of "FIGURE 1" from the bottom of the drawings;

FIG. 2 has been corrected by deletion of "FIGURE 2" from the bottom of the drawings;

FIGS. 10A through FIG. 10F (all on the 14<sup>th</sup> sheet of drawings) have been corrected by deletion of the letters A through F and deletion of the legend "FIGURE 10" and replacement with proper labeling of each drawing as FIG. 10A through FIG. 10F; and

FIGS. 12A through FIG. 12J (on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> sheets of drawings) have been corrected by deletion of the letters A through J and deletion of the legend "FIGURE 12" and replacement with proper labeling of each drawing as FIG. 12A through FIG. 10J.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments**

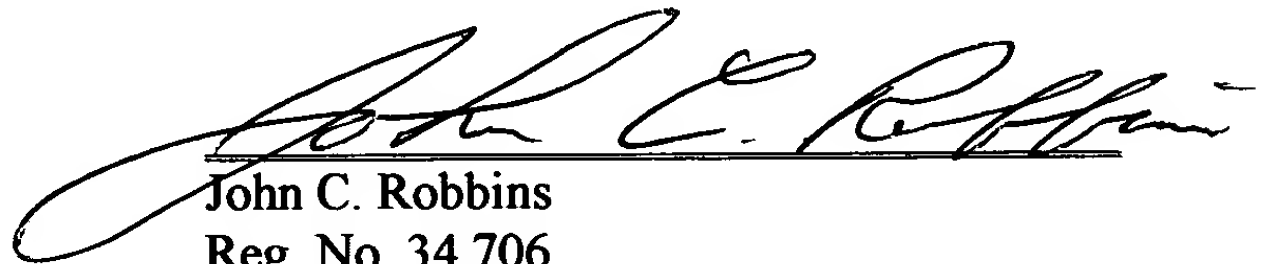
By the above amendments, Applicant has properly recited the priority claim on line 1, page 1, to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/628,340, filed July 28, 2000. In the Office Action, reference was made to a priority claim on page 23, however, Applicant could find no such reference.

In the Office Action, claims 17-20 were allowed. All withdrawn claims have been canceled and the remaining claims provided in a clean format.

The drawings needed minor corrections, and have been corrected as set forth above and in the attached appendix.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Telephone No.: (707) 469-2313

Date: November 18, 2003



EXPRESS MAIL No.: EL 953901385 US  
Docket Number: 41792

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

Norman G. ANDERSON

Serial No.: 09/915,291

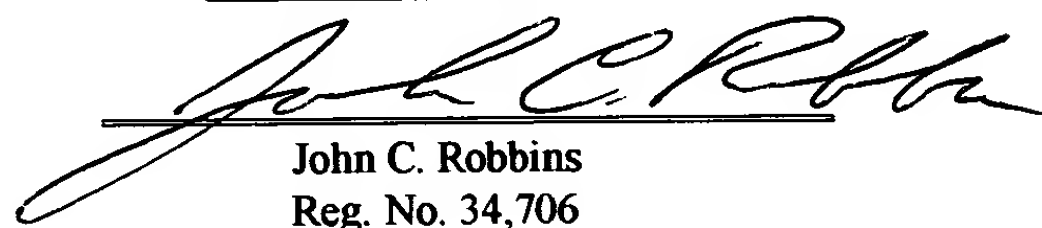
Filed: July 27, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
UNLOADING DENSITY GRADIENTS

) Examiner: David L. SORKIN

) Group Art Unit: 1723

) I hereby certify that this paper is being sent via  
) EXPRESS MAIL and I have reasonable basis to  
) expect that this paper will be mailed on or  
) before November 18, 2003

)   
John C. Robbins  
Reg. No. 34,706

**APPENDIX**  
**WITH DRAWING CORRECTIONS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

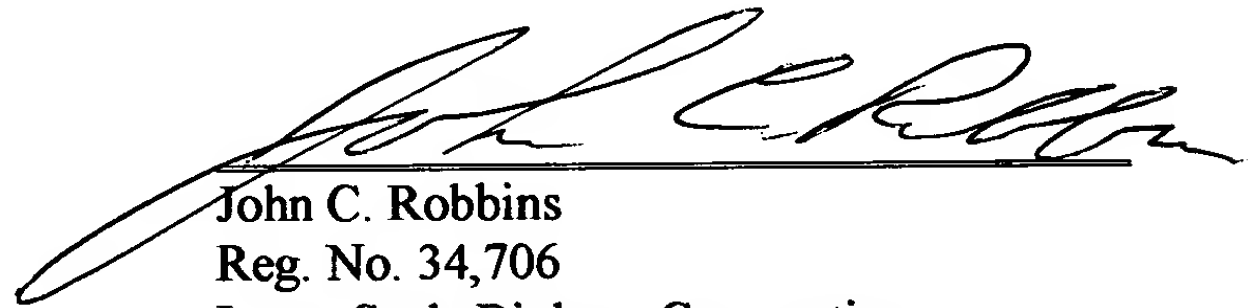
In response to the Office Action mailed October 28, 2003, Applicant has corrected the drawings as follows:

- FIG. 1 has been corrected by deletion of "FIGURE 1" from the bottom of the drawings;
- FIG. 2 has been corrected by deletion of "FIGURE 2" from the bottom of the drawings;
- FIGS. 10A through FIG. 10F (all on the 14<sup>th</sup> sheet of drawings) have been corrected by deletion of the letters A through F and deletion of the legend "FIGURE 10" and replacement with proper labeling of each drawing as FIG. 10A through FIG. 10F; and
- FIGS. 12A through FIG. 12J (on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> sheets of drawings) have been corrected by deletion of the letters A through J and deletion of the legend "FIGURE 12" and replacement with proper labeling of each drawing as FIG. 12A through FIG. 10J.

Clean replacement copies of the amended drawings accompany this paper along with copies of the originally filed drawings having red ink indicating the corrections.

Applicant asserts that no new matter has been introduced by virtue of these corrections.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Robbins", is written over a horizontal line.

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Date: November 18, 2003

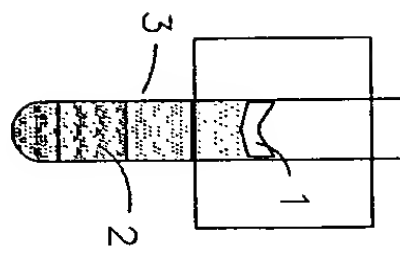


Fig. 1A

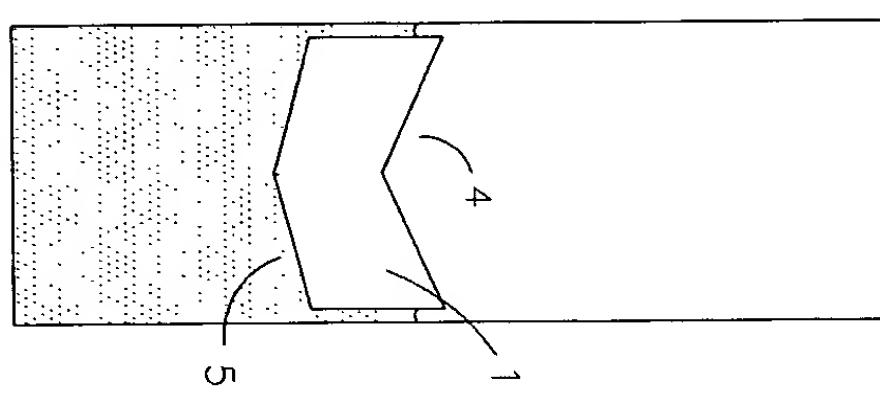


Fig. 1B

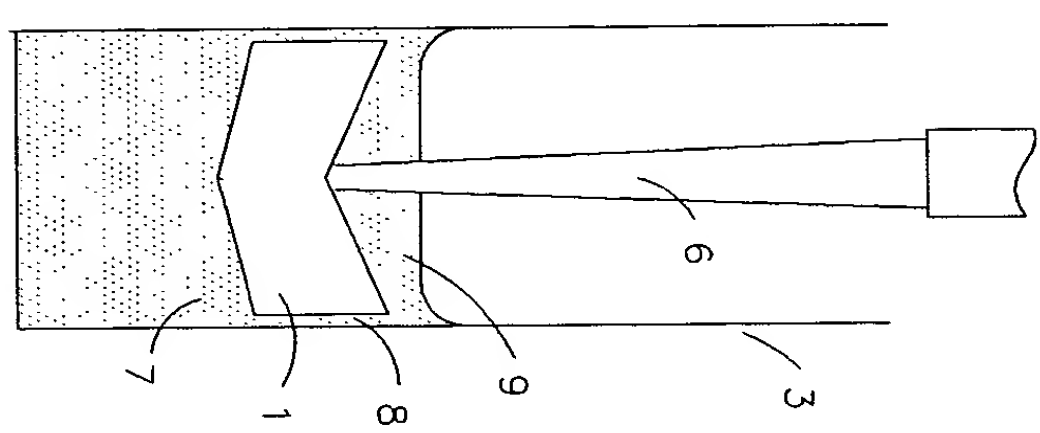


Fig. 1C

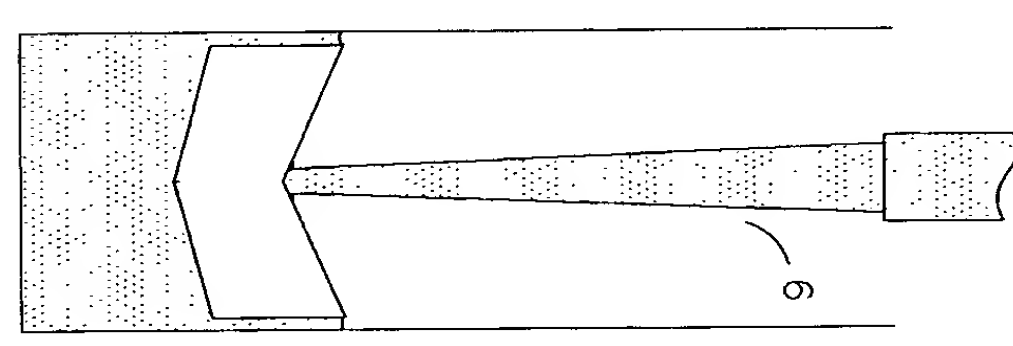


Fig. 1D

~~FIGURE 1~~

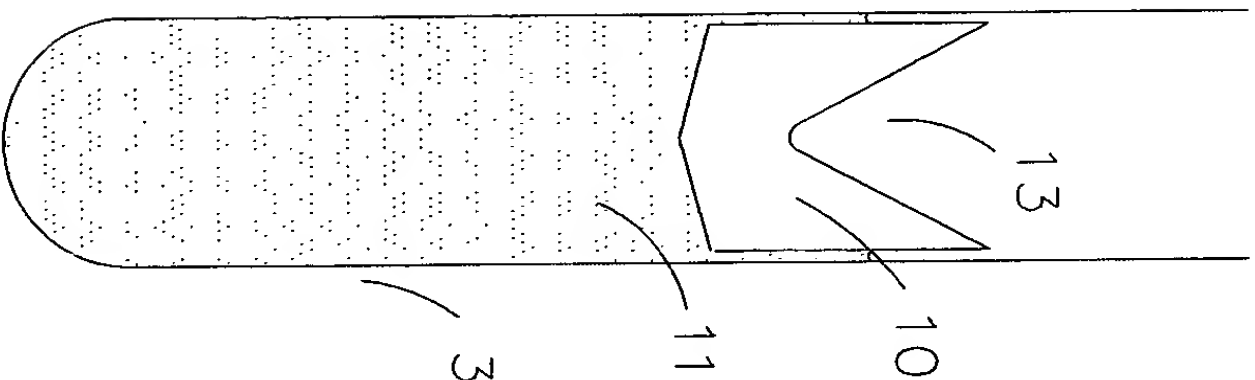


Fig. 2A

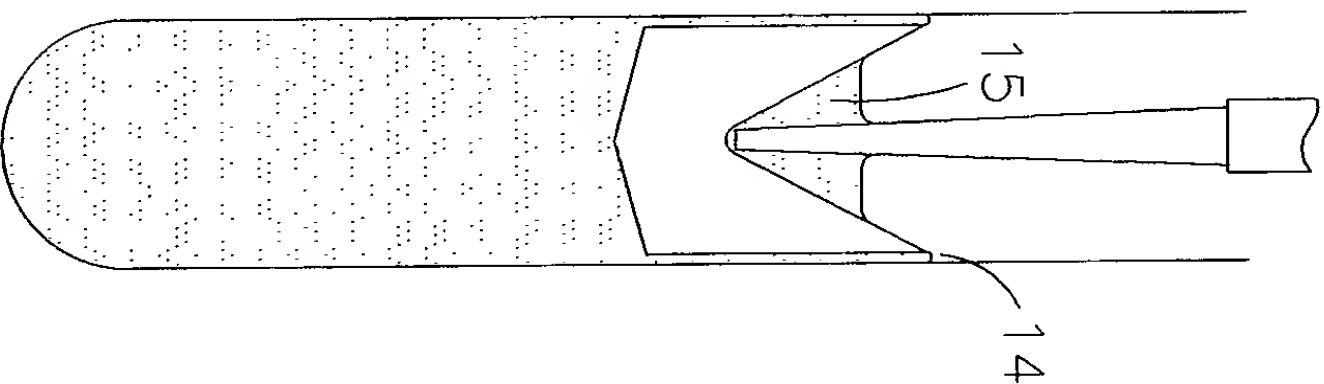


Fig. 2B

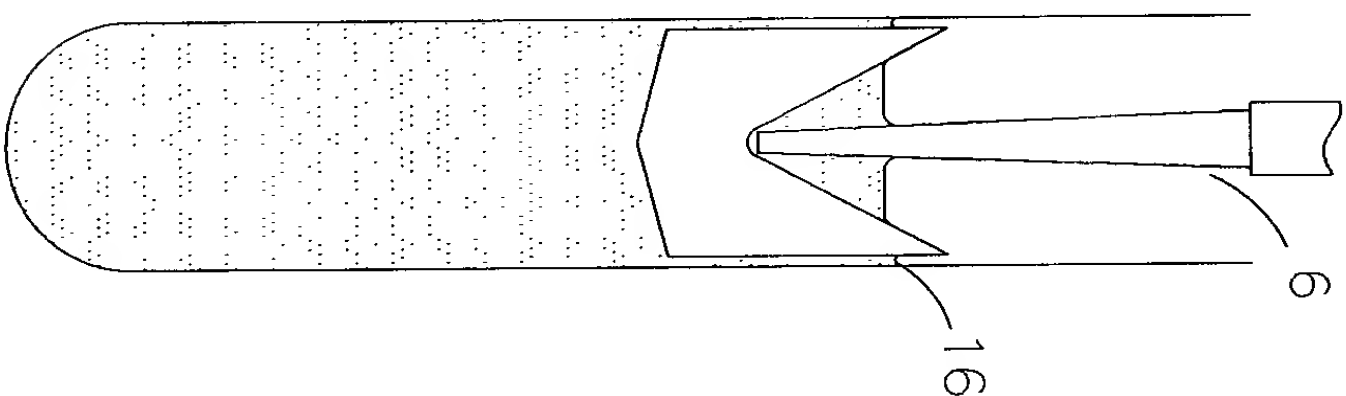


Fig. 2C

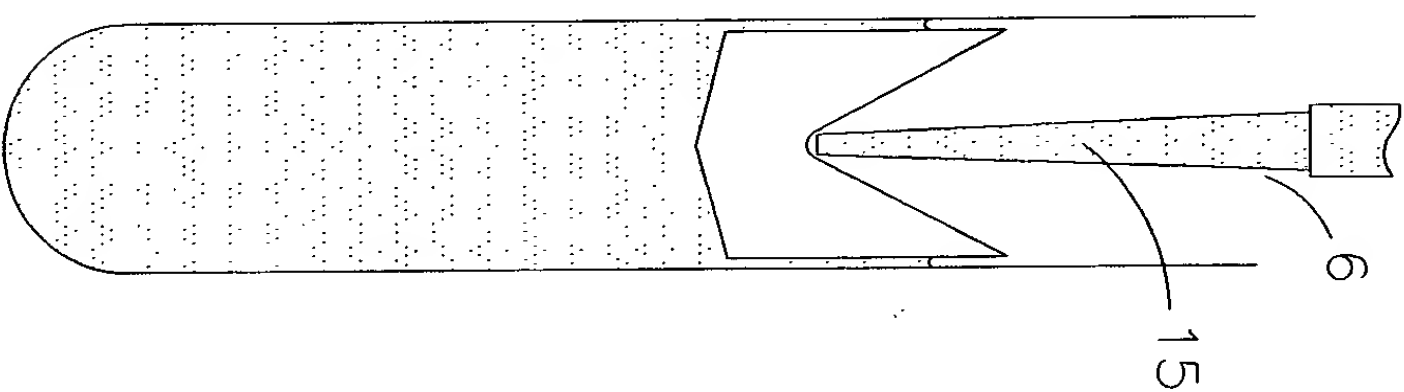


Fig. 2D

~~FIGURE 2~~

Fig. 10A

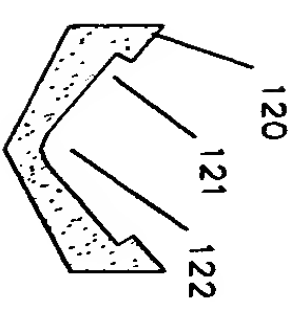


Fig. 10B

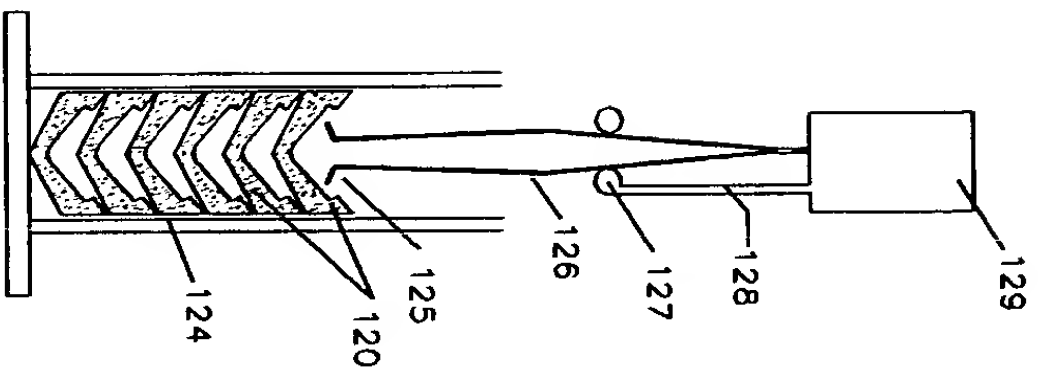


Fig. 10C

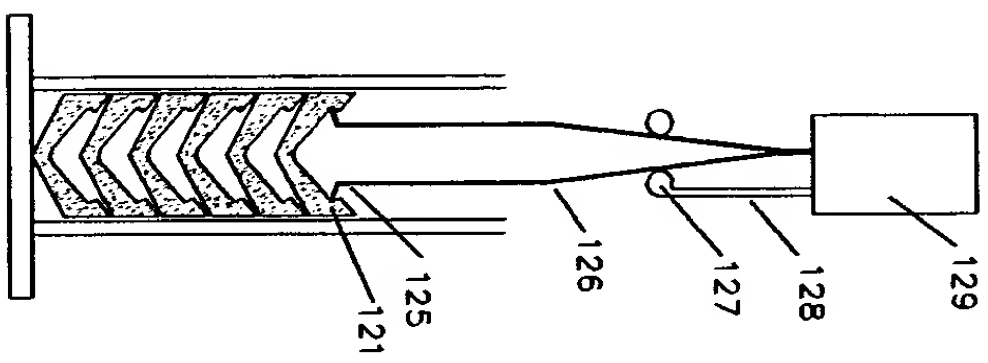


Fig. 10D

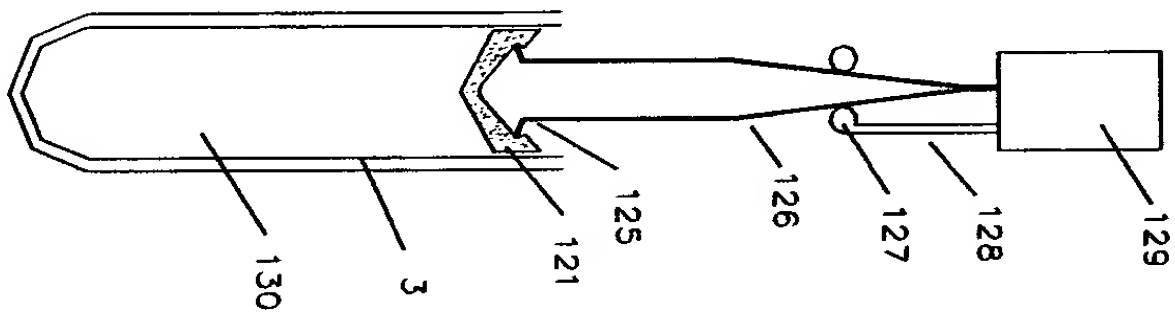


Fig. 10E

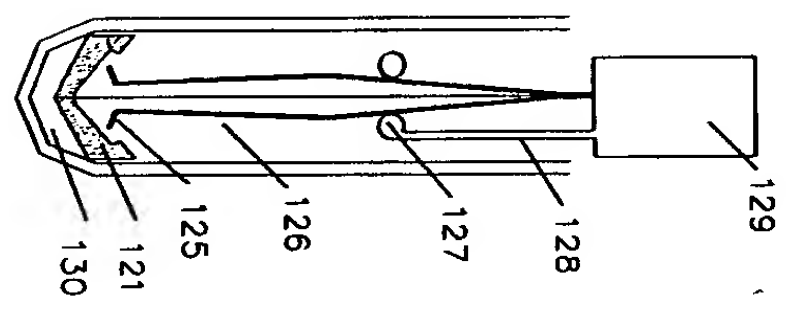
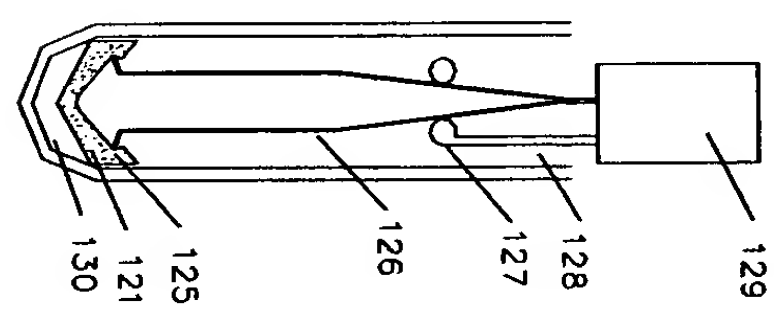


Fig. 10F



~~Figure 10~~



Fig 12A

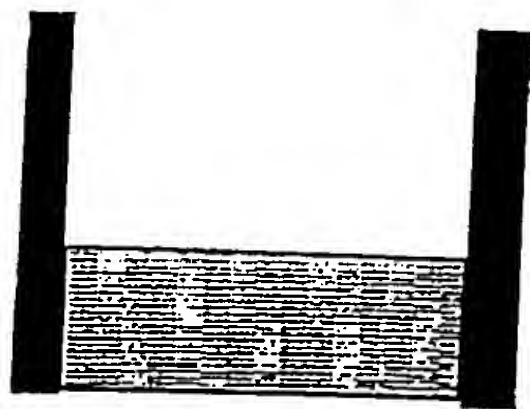


Fig 12B

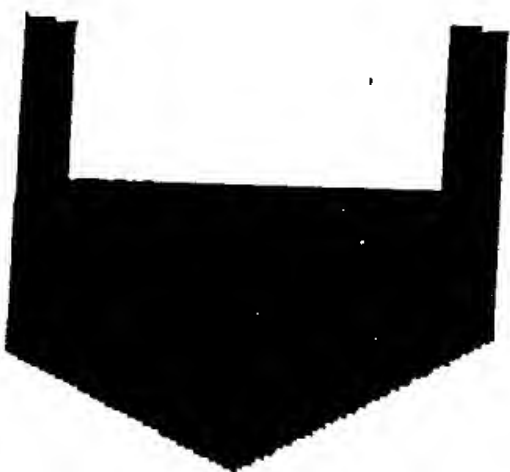


Fig 12. C

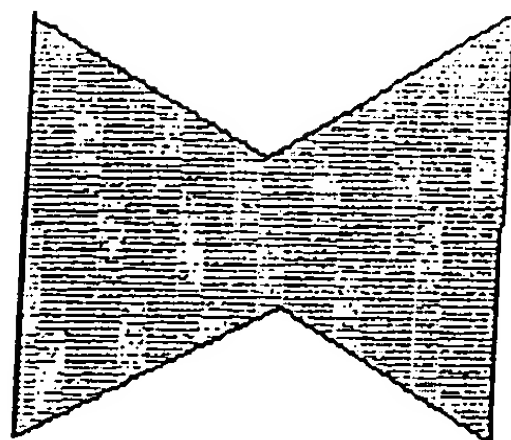


Fig 12D

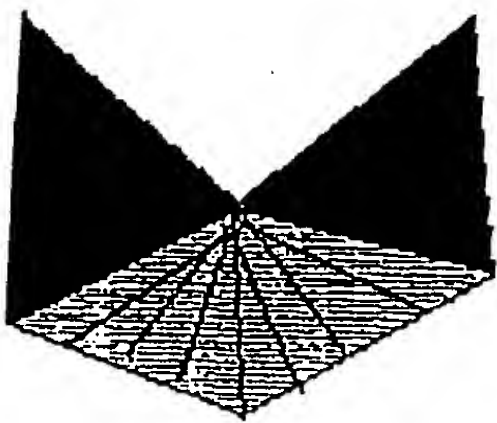


Fig 12E

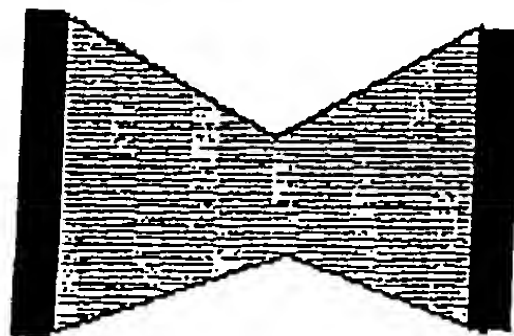


Fig 12F

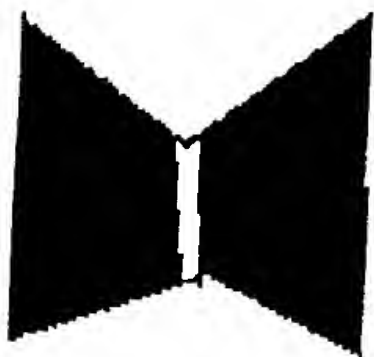


Fig 12G

~~Figure 12~~



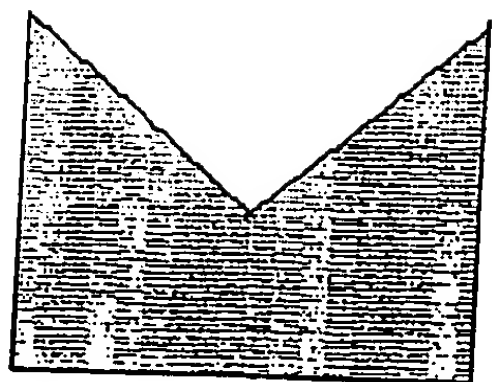


Fig. 12 H

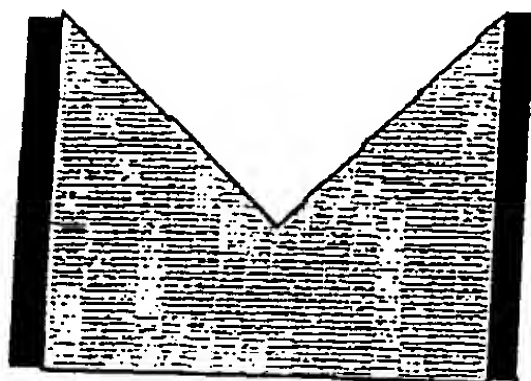


Fig 12 I

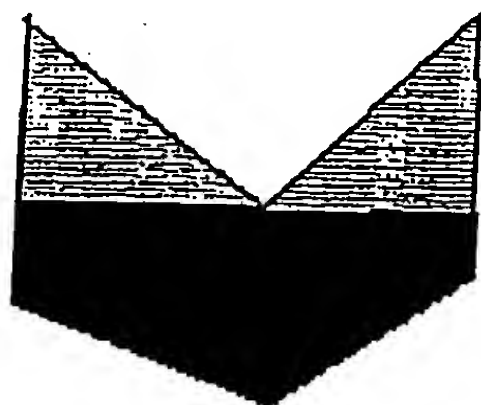


Fig 12 J

~~Figure 12~~